IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Norbert Marxer et al.

Assignee:

KLA-Tencor Corporaiton

Title:

PROCESS AND ASSEMBLY FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE SURFACE

INSPECTIONS

Application No.:

Unassigned

Filing Date:

July 10, 2003

Examiner:

Unassigned

Group Art Unit:

Unassigned

Docket No.:

TNCR.007US3

Conf. No.:

Unassigned

San Francisco, California July 10, 2003

Box Patent Application Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Attorney Docket No.: TNCR.007US3

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1, lines 6-12 with the following paragraph:

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/901,998 filed on July 10, 2001, which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/770,491, filed December 20, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/216,834, filed March 24, 1994, now abandoned, and of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/533,632, filed September 25, 1995, now abandoned.

Attorney Docket No.: TNCR.007US3